

Corrections in America: An Introduction, 15e (Allen)
Chapter 2 Prisons (1800 to the Present)

2.1 Multiple Choice

- 1) The Eastern Penitentiary was characterized by all of the following except
- A) silence.
 - B) solitary confinement.
 - C) inside cells.
 - D) separation of inmates.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

- 2) The Auburn system was characterized by all of the following except
- A) freedom to converse with others.
 - B) a large, centralized work area.
 - C) congregate eating and working.
 - D) militaristic procession.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

- 3) The main difference between the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems was that in the Auburn system, inmates
- A) remained in solitary confinement.
 - B) were kept isolated from one another.
 - C) ate meals in their cells.
 - D) performed congregate work in shops.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

- 4) Multitier living cells usually stacked in tiers were known as
- A) the congregate system.
 - B) cell blocks.
 - C) inside cells.
 - D) the Auburn system.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 35

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Basic

- 5) What was the main theme common to both the Pennsylvania and Auburn prisons systems?
- A) The emphasis on solitary confinement to prevent inmates from contaminating each other
 - B) The use of inside cells to increase prison security
 - C) A focus on congregate work
 - D) The belief in silence as a way to encourage improved inmate behavior

Answer: D

Page Ref: 35

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

- 6) Which of the following was not a reason why the Auburn system became the dominant prison design?

- A) There were fewer disciplinary problems with inmates in Auburn system prisons.
- B) There was less mental illness in Auburn system prisons than in the Pennsylvania model.
- C) Auburn system prisons were cheaper to build.
- D) The Auburn system generated greater profits.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 35-36

Objective: Explain why the Auburn system became the dominant prison design.

Level: Intermediate

- 7) Which of the following was not a characteristic of early 19th century penitentiary system in America?

- A) A focus on rehabilitation
- B) Rules designed to maintain total control of prisoners
- C) An emphasis on discipline
- D) The imposition of silence

Answer: A

Page Ref: 36

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

- 8) Which was not a reason for the use of degrading prison garb at Auburn and Sing Sing?

- A) The increased commercialization of prisons
- B) Easy identification of prisoner classification
- C) Increased institutionalization of inmates
- D) Easy identification of escapees

Answer: A

Page Ref: 37

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

9) One of the main innovations from Auburn and Eastern State Penitentiary that persist today is

- A) the use of total solitary confinement.
- B) enforced silence.
- C) prison industries.
- D) corporal punishment.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

10) A period of confinement that has specified minimum and maximum lengths and allows release to be dependent upon rehabilitation is known as a(n)

- A) mark system.
- B) indeterminate sentence.
- C) flat sentence.
- D) quantity of labor.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

11) Alexander Maconochie showed that

- A) rehabilitation is rarely successful.
- B) imprisonment can be used to prepare criminals to return to society.
- C) inmates should never be in control of their destiny.
- D) indeterminate sentencing was destined to fail.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 38-39

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

12) The Irish System's program of conditional leave was a precursor to the modern system of

- A) determinate sentencing.
- B) probation.
- C) industrial prisons.
- D) parole.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

13) Which of the following was not a component of early reformatories?

- A) A focus on education
- B) Conditional release
- C) Degrading clothing for inmates
- D) An emphasis on training

Answer: C

Page Ref: 40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

14) In which way did the programs at Elmira differ from adult prisons?

- A) A greater focus on punishment over rehabilitation
- B) Greater religious involvement
- C) Increased focus on prison discipline
- D) Increased academic education and trade training

Answer: D

Page Ref: 41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

15) The two main contributions of the reformatory era to corrections were

- A) discipline and punishment.
- B) education and vocational training.
- C) indeterminate sentencing and parole.
- D) rehabilitation and redress.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

16) The penitentiary system in the South was virtually wiped out as a result of

- A) the effects of the Civil War.
- B) clashing penal philosophies.
- C) a drop-off in the number of criminals.
- D) the reformatory movement.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 42

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

17) Which of the following statements is not true of the lease system?

- A) It made a positive contribution to corrections.
- B) It was essentially akin to slavery.
- C) It was profitable for the states and those who leased the inmates.
- D) It began after the slaves were freed at the end of the Civil War.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 42

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

18) Lease systems were replaced in southern states by

- A) prison factories.
- B) contract systems.
- C) prison farms.
- D) vocational training.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 42

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

19) Legislators supported industrial prisons after they realized the prisons were

- A) reforming convicts.
- B) making a profit.
- C) not supported by unions.
- D) failing miserably.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

20) One reason the industrial prison did not last was because

- A) reform and rehabilitation were deemed more important.
- B) the prisons were not making enough of a profit.
- C) the convicts were putting out poor products.
- D) it proved to be unfair competition for other businesses.

Answer: D

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

21) Which of the following was not a result of the opposition to prison industries and the end of the industrial prison?

- A) A return to an emphasis on punishment and custody
- B) A stronger relationship with organized labor
- C) A return to a system of enforced idleness
- D) The adoption of more reformatory methods

Answer: B

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

22) Which of the following was a contribution to corrections made by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons during the period of transition between 1935 and 1960?

- A) The elimination of the problem of lock psychosis
- B) The development of a new form of industrial prison
- C) The development of diagnosis and classification systems
- D) The creation of the convict bogey viewpoint

Answer: C

Page Ref: 45

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

23) Which change in prisons contributed to an increase in riots?

- A) The increased use of diagnosis and classification systems
- B) The use of professional personnel to help rehabilitate inmates
- C) Increased funding for correctional facilities
- D) The elimination of prison industry programs

Answer: D

Page Ref: 46

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

24) How did the turbulence in American society in the 1960s impact prisons?

- A) It contributed to renewed focus on the medical model.
- B) Inmates engaged in periodic prison riots and other forms of disorder in prisons.
- C) The Supreme Court moved away from its focus on individual rights for those involved in the criminal justice system.
- D) Efforts at rehabilitation increased in response to increasing rates of crime.

Answer: B

Page Ref: 47

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

25) Beginning the late 1960s, the nature of demands of inmates engaged in prison riots increasingly began to change to a focus on

- A) demands for basic individual rights within prisons.
- B) the poor living conditions within prisons.
- C) complaints about excessive punishment.
- D) concerns about guard brutality targeting inmates.

Answer: A

Page Ref: 48

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

26) The recent decline in the number of inmates in state prisons since 2009 is attributed to

- A) a significant decrease in crime in the United States.
- B) a reduction in fear of crime.
- C) the financial recession.
- D) changes in correctional policy.

Answer: C

Page Ref: 49

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

27) Which of the following was not a result of the 1980s get tough approach to crime?

- A) Rapid expansion of the prison population
- B) Increased prison overcrowding
- C) Massive jail and prison construction
- D) An increase in early-release mechanisms from prison

Answer: D

Page Ref: 49

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

2.2 True-False

1) The Walnut Street Jail became the model of the Pennsylvania system.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Basic

2) The effects of solitary confinement and enforced idleness were never tested in the Auburn system.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

3) Under the Auburn system, it was believed that prisoners would contaminate each other if they spoke to one another.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

4) The Pennsylvania system became the dominant prison design because it was cheaper and more profitable for the state.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 36

Objective: Explain why the Auburn system became the dominant prison design.

Level: Intermediate

5) In the early penitentiaries, the imposition of silence was seen as the most important part of the prison discipline program.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 37

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

6) In early prisons, treadmills were a form of exercise.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 37

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Basic

7) The length of an indeterminate sentence is not affected by the inmate's behavior while in prison.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

8) Maconochie developed the mark system that allowed inmates to earn their freedom by hard work and good behavior.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

9) Under the Irish system, a ticket-of-leave was equivalent to a full pardon for the offender.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

10) At Elmira Reformatory, Zebulon Brockway focused on reducing recidivism through education programs.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

11) The main contributions of the reformatory era were parole and indeterminate sentences.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

12) Industrial prisons were institutions owned and run by large businesses.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

13) The Hawes-Cooper and Ashurst-Sumners Acts ultimately put an end to the success of industrial prisons.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

14) Alcatraz was ultimately closed down because too many high-profile convicts escaped.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 45

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

15) The elimination of prison industries contributed to increased discontent among inmates and led to riots.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 45

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

16) The civil rights movement contributed to a change in the demands made by inmates during prison riots.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 47

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

17) Outside social issues regularly carried over into prisons during the 20th century.

Answer: TRUE

Page Ref: 47

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

18) The recent decline in the number of state inmates is due to major changes in correctional policy.

Answer: FALSE

Page Ref: 49

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Basic

2.3 Fill in the Blank

1) The _____ system emphasized solitary confinement in outside cells as well as inmate silence and individual labor.

Answer: Pennsylvania

Page Ref: 32

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

2) The model in which prisoners work and eat together in total silence was known as the _____ system.

Answer: Auburn

Page Ref: 34

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

3) The final deciding factor in the battle between the Pennsylvania and Auburn system was _____.

Answer: economics

Page Ref: 36

Objective: Explain why the Auburn system became the dominant prison design.

Level: Intermediate

4) The _____ formation involved lines of inmates marching with hands on shoulders.

Answer: lockstep

Page Ref: 37

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

5) _____ confinement was also known as a "prison within a prison."

Answer: Solitary

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Compare and contrast the Pennsylvania and Auburn systems.

Level: Intermediate

6) With an indeterminate sentence, the inmate is released when _____ has been achieved.

Answer: rehabilitation

Page Ref: 38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

7) The idea of conditional liberty is today commonly known as _____.

Answer: parole

Page Ref: 40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

8) The _____ system involved private contractors hiring inmates to perform work details.

Answer: lease

Page Ref: 42

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Basic

9) The Ashurst-Sumners Act essentially stopped the _____ transport of prison products.

Answer: interstate

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

10) The U.S. Bureau of _____ became the national leader in corrections in the 20th century.

Answer: Prisons

Page Ref: 45

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

11) The 1960s marked the beginning of the _____ era of corrections.

Answer: modern

Page Ref: 47

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

12) A correctional overseer who investigates complaints is a(n) _____.

Answer: ombudsman

Page Ref: 48

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.
Level: Intermediate

2.4 Matching

Match the correctional system in Column 1 with its description in Column 2.

- A) A prison system that provided for solitary confinement, silence, and labor in outside cells
- B) A prison system with an inside cell design, a congregate work area, and enforced silence
- C) A prison system where inmates could earn their freedom
- D) A prison system designed to enforce penitence

1) Penitentiary system

Page Ref: 31, 32, 34, 40

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

2) Pennsylvania system

Page Ref: 31, 32, 34, 40

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

3) Auburn system

Page Ref: 31, 32, 34, 40

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

4) Irish System

Page Ref: 31, 32, 34, 40

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 1) D 2) A 3) B 4) C

Match the reformist in Column 1 with one of his greatest contributions in Column 2.

- A) Conditional pardon
- B) Education
- C) Mark system
- D) Discipline

5) Elam Lynds

Page Ref: 36, 38-41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

6) Captain Alexander Maconochie

Page Ref: 36, 38-41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

7) Sir Walter Crofton

Page Ref: 36, 38-41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

8) Zebulon Brockway

Page Ref: 36, 38-41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 5) D 6) C 7) A 8) B

Match the concept in Column 1 with its correct definition in Column 2.

- A) An idea that an inmate can earn release after achieving rehabilitation
- B) A system in which a convict could earn points for hard work and good behavior
- C) A prison management system in which inmates could earn conditional pardons
- D) The hiring of inmates for work by private contractors

9) Mark system

Page Ref: 38, 40, 42

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

10) Indeterminate sentence

Page Ref: 38, 40, 42

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

11) Irish system

Page Ref: 38, 40, 42

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

12) Lease system

Page Ref: 38, 40, 42

Objective: n/a

Level: Intermediate

Answers: 9) B 10) A 11) C 12) D

2.5 Essay

1) Why did the Auburn system become the dominant prison design?

Answer: Answers should discuss the main factors that decided the competition, including the lower incidence of mental illness in Auburn, the cheaper per-cell construction costs, and the greater profits obtained. The importance of economics should be stressed.

Page Ref: 35-36

Objective: Explain why the Auburn system became the dominant prison design.

Level: Intermediate

2) What were the key principles of Maconochie's system and how did his system influence the Irish System?

Answer: Answers should identify the five principles of Maconochie's system, including the use of task sentences; the use of marks; the need for inmates to earn everything they receive; the development of groups of inmates responsible for each other's conduct and labor; and the need to reduce discipline to prepare inmates for release. Answers should include a description of Crofton's Irish System. The mark system developed by Maconochie was adapted by Crofton, who created a series of stages, each bringing the convict closer to the free society.

Page Ref: 38-40

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

3) What are some of the standards that Brockway insisted upon at his reformatory in Elmira, New York?

Answer: Answers can include, but are not limited to the following: an abundance of natural and artificial light, uniform but not degrading clothing, a liberal diet, facilities for athletics, facilities for manual and vocational training, a military organization, a school curriculum, a library, an institutional newspaper, recreation, and religious opportunities.

Page Ref: 40-41

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

4) Discuss the effect of the industrial prison throughout its evolution.

Answer: Answers should mention that the idea for the industrial prison was initially a success. It was a success for inmates because they had a job to do and they suffered much less from the effects of too much idle time. It was a success for the prison and the states because the inmates were actually putting out a marketable product. Everything seemed to be working out well until competing businesses and workers' unions started complaining. As a result, legislation was passed that essentially put an end to industry in prison.

Page Ref: 43

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

5) What were some of the reasons given for the increased number of riots during the correctional period of transition from 1935 to 1960?

Answer: Answers may include, but are not limited to the following: inadequate financial and public support, substandard personnel, enforced idleness, lack of strong or well-intentioned leadership, overcrowding, and unwise sentencing and parole practices.

Page Ref: 45-46

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

6) What is the role of an ombudsman?

Answer: The role of the ombudsman is to oversee and investigate complaints made by anyone (inmates, staff, administration), report on those findings, and help to achieve equitable settlements. This person is essentially a link between the prisoner and the establishment.

Page Ref: 48

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Intermediate

2.6 Critical Thinking

1) How have the rules and systems developed in early prisons continued to influence corrections today?

Answer: Answers should discuss how many of the early forms of prison discipline, such as solitary confinement as punishment for misconduct, degrading prison garb, and harsh punishments still exist today (although cruel and barbaric punishments are publicly decried, they are still used at times, at least in part because prisons are isolated from society and social controls). The use of long-term solitary confinement, as in the Pennsylvania System, also still exists today.

Page Ref: 36-38

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

2) Why is an ombudsman necessary in a prison?

Answer: Answers should include some mention of the idea that an ombudsman is necessary in a prison so that no particular group (inmates or staff or administration) gets too far out of control. There needs to be some sort of middleman to help make decisions so that one group does not become too powerful. There needs to be a place to voice complaints or concerns.

The ombudsman provides this necessary outlet.

Page Ref: 48

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

3) Why is reform desperately needed in corrections today, at the start of the 21st century, and why?

Answer: Answers should include some reference to the prison population boom mentioned at the end of this chapter. Other related issues include unprecedented growth in prison construction, increased overcrowding, and reduction of early-release mechanisms. Our current correctional system is under major strain, and new ideas and reforms are needed to alleviate that stress.

Page Ref: 48-49

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult

4) How can reformists ultimately affect the field of corrections, even if their ideas do not immediately take off?

Answer: Answers should make mention of the fact that reformists tend to think outside the box and generally have a more progressive perspective. They tend to be ahead of their time, and for this reason, their ideas may not be accepted immediately. The important thing is that reformists use their voice and their means to share their ideas and to plant the seeds that will lead to future progress and reform. Ultimately, those ideas will take shape when the time is right.

Page Ref: 49

Objective: Describe prison development from the reformatory era to the modern era.

Level: Difficult